

Sinclair's decision to force his stations to air a documentary about John Kerry days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair, a common citizen (not a noble or lord) uses PUBLIC airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest - a mission that is continually being compromised (vis a vis cessation of public service announcement obligations). Large companies control the airwaves or at least it very much seems that way. We get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard..

If anyone ever reads this, remember, we once believed this was a liberal democracy. We know better now. Only question is, when's the revolution?